

Dr. Peterson

Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice Investiture

11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, Morehouse College

Good morning. I bring greetings on this momentous day, from the Georgia Institute of Technology, the proud alma mater of 1983 graduate Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice.

This is the second time within a week that I've had the privilege of introducing Dr. Montgomery Rice. Just this past week, I introduced her as the keynote speaker at the 6th annual Diversity Symposium at Georgia Tech.

Included in her remarks — and I'm paraphrasing here — she said that earning her chemistry degree at Georgia Tech prepared her well for her experience at the Harvard Medical School.

We are proud of her and proud that her time at Georgia Tech has helped her to prepare for her new role.

At Georgia Tech, we pride ourselves on educating young people who will become leaders, who will take what they've learned during their time with us, and use those skills to make the world a better place.

And while I am confident that her life as a young woman in her hometown of Macon, the preparation and experiences she had at Tech, and the education she received at Harvard, have all helped her in her career, there can be no doubt that it has been her drive, her intelligence and her heart for service that have propelled her forward and positioned her for the many great things to come here at Morehouse.

Her journey has brought her here to another of the nation's great institutions of higher learning and on this day of celebration, we all take great pride in her accomplishments.

We look forward with great anticipation and high hopes for the many great things she will bring to, and do for, this fine institution.

Dr. Rice, all of us at Georgia Tech are enormously proud of you, and we look forward to working with you in the months and years to come.

We wish you and the entire Morehouse community God's speed as you continue your leadership here at the Morehouse School of Medicine.